Dear Henry, 11/8/82

Your three notes of the fifth and Chapter V came today. I've read and annotated it and will add and explain comments on tape. I may not be able to finish this today but if I don't I'll probably be able to tomorrow.

It is a good chapter but there are the expectable errors in crediting. This is a little awkward for me because most of the misplaced credit is actually to my work. In one instance, using the much later source introduces a problem of accuracy of recall. In any event, it is contradicted by the earlier record I published in 1967. This relates to Carolyn Arnold, no longer her name. She's remarried. With the Bronson film, knowledge of which I obtained for the first time in C.A. 78-0322, I think you should include more from those records, copies of which I'll enclose. For example, the FBI's basis for saying that a still picture showing the actual assassination is valueless because it cannot be used for identification, i.e., it does not show Oswald with the smoking rifle in that alleged sniper's lair.

I've known other hunt-and-peck tyoists who are almost perfect and I envy you and them! I, alas, have to type side-saddle, and I was never very accurate earlier. (I use more than two fingers, but when I started, in high school, in about 1928, I used only the two forefingers.)

I've not been in many newsrooms in recent years but I was flabbergasted by the easy of correcting, storing and retrieving with the new machines from what I saw of Les Payne's at Newsday in 1976 or 7. A dream!

You ask what I really believe about the track. It is that if a bullet transitted the body it left a track that could be traced. The existing evidence and the deficiencies of the autopsy and investigations makes it impossible to state with certainty that there was a transitting shot or that there wasn't. I am confident, with regard to the FBI, that when it first eyeballed CE 399 it knew it did hot have the history attributed to it and could not have. If you want more, please let me know.

You also ask for citations to the fact that the Commission knew that the damage to the shirt and tie was not caused by a bullet. It is cited in Post Mortem, 375-6,8, but I think you might well read the rest of that chapter, not many pages.

Most of the suggestions I'll make are for clarification or tightening.

On credit, I explain that at the end of the litigation, when I file for attorney's fees for Lesar, this becomes quite important in evaluating the significance of the litigation and the information it brought to light. It would be awkward and troublesome if the FBI were to use errors in your book in refutation.

Let me trace this for you. And before I forget, you did not mention Gary Mack (the name he uses in radio and TV). He was with Earl and he has done most of the Dallas work on Bronson and all other pix. Once I learned about this I sent him everything pertaining to pictures. On the Bronson records, I sent them to another critic for opinion and forwarding. And, in general, any records bearing Dallas numbers and none of the WC's were disclosed in my C.A. 78-0322. (New Orleans, ditto, C.A? 78-0420, now both are combined.) I happen to have an extra set of most or all of the later records so I'll enclose it. I'll make copies of the originals as I obtained them, the 1963 records. You'll see that except for the additional of Mich's numbers they are identical.

I know I sent Earl the Mrs. Tony Henderson record but I'm not checking the large correspondence for the date. Attached to my subject-file copy is a letter to another reporter, after I spoke to him or probably a little later, dated 2/5/78. I'm not absolutelt certain but I think that the material that interests you was omitted by the FBI

from what it gave WC. No, not this. Because it could be so important I checked and also enclose what the WC published in Vol. 24. You can see how the FBI twisted it later. They got it away from certainty that she saw the men in the Oswald window.

It does not diminish the fine work Earl did to tell you that my first source on the prisoners was another reporter, Bonnie Hudkins. He left Texas early in 1964. One of the records I got and sent Earl may not relate to Powell. He never told me.

If you compare with with the two Marolyn Arnold records I published in PhotoWW, pp. 210-1, you'll see again how the FBI fudged it over. And if you want the original of the second record, showing how they tried to change the date on her, I'll send that.

The absence of any investigation that includes all those prisoners, who had the best overview of all, is, I think, significant. I know there is nothing reflecting this in the Report and I believe there is nothing reflecting any initiative by the FBI or WC.

On postage, etc., we don't have to work to the penny. Why not keep an approximation in mind and later you can repay it. When I seal the envelopes or packages I do not know what they'll require. I'm about out of tapes, though, and if you want to keep them, we can either use some of mine, which are not inexpensive and you can later return them or you can send some or I can buy some of the kind you've been using. Once I used the cheaper ones because I fcouldn't afford better. But I've been told that in time they damage the heads of a good recorder, so, unless I find a few around that I didn't give away, I have only good, commercial-quality tapes.

I won't have time to tape anything after the searching because we are going to the dinner of our community association. I should be able to do it in the morning, after I walk and before the dentist in the afternoon.

By the way, I think I bumped into an exceptional deal on wood today. I saw a mechanic with most of a pickup load of dry locust, oak and a little elm. I asked him if he sells wood that dry. He ~~says~~ said he sells two-year wood and is not cutting green wood in spare time. His price for the dry is $50 a cord, $10 more for stacking! He's to bring the first part of the six-cord order I gave him this Sunday afternoon.

To the best of my knowledge the FBI/DJ still have done nothing with the Bronson film, after three years. I think the name excised is that of the JFK case agent, Udo D Specht. Warl and Gary have spoken to him. Gary Mack is at 4620 Brendingshire, Fort Worth 76133, 817/292-5656. His correct name is Lawrence A Dunkel.

To save time on the tape, on the curtain-rods, the WC and FBI never bothered to check to see if any were found until 8/64. And ~~[illegible]~~ the afternoon of the assassination or the next day, if you want what can be a sensational picture that has never been published, Black Star got shots of curtain rods and curtains being put up by the ~~JFK~~ Johnsons. I have only contacts. They are 35mm.

Best wishes,